

Message Text

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CU - MR. MINNICH

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R 221707Z MAY 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 119708

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SCUL, PFOR, TW, CH

SUBJECT: ROC PARTICIPATION IN US BICENTENNIAL: OPERATION
SAIL '76

1. ROC EMBASSY CONTACTED DEPARTMENT CONCERNING LETTER
IT RECEIVED FROM PRIVATE GROUP IN BALTIMORE INVITING
IT TO SEND ROC NAVY SAIL TRAINING SHIP TO PARTICIPATE
IN "OPERATION SAIL '76." THIS WILL INVOLVE RACE OF OLD
FASHIONED SAILING SHIPS FROM BERMUDA TO NEWPORT NEXT
SUMMER TO CELEBRATE BICENTENNIAL. LETTER WAS FROM
DONALD STEWART, HEAD OF BALTIMORE CONTINGENT OF
OPERATION SAIL '76, AND WAS ADDRESSED TO ROC NAVAL
ATTACHE. LETTER FURTHER NOTED THAT IF ROC NAVY DOES
NOT HAVE SAILING SHIP, IT COULD SEND MODERN WARSHIP
TO NEW YORK FOR PARADE OF SAIL TRAINING VESSELS AND
OTHER NAVAL VESSELS IN NEW YORK HARBOR ON JULY 4,
AFTER RACE. STEWART ALSO INVITED ROC TO SEND TRAIN-
ING SHIP TO BALTIMORE FOR GOODWILL VISIT IN JULY AFTER
EVENTS DESCRIBED ABOVE.

2. WE HAVE REPLIED TO ROC EMBASSY REQUEST FOR OUR
CONFIDENTIAL

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VIEWS ON THIS MATTER AS FOLLOWS:

A. RACE FROM BERMUDA TO NEWPORT IS FOR SAIL

TRAINING SHIPS ONLY; SINCE ROC NAVY DOES NOT HAVE SUCH A SHIP, PRESUMABLY IT IS NOT IN A POSITION TO PARTICIPATE.

B. PARADE AND OTHER CEREMONIES IN NEW YORK HARBOR WILL BE PART OF INTERNATIONAL NAVAL REVIEW BEING PLANNED BY US NAVY AS BICENTENNIAL EVENT. THIS WILL BE SPONSORED BY USG, AND ROC PARTICIPATION WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE.

C. AS FOR INVITATION TO VISIT PORT OF BALTIMORE, THE ONLY SHIP ROC NAVY COULD SEND FOR SUCH A VISIT WOULD BE MODERN WARSHIP AND THERE WOULD BE PRACTICAL DIFFICULTIES IN ARRANGING THIS. IN SUM, WE HAVE SOUGHT TO DISCOURAGE ROC FROM ACCEPTING STEWART INVITATION.

3. FOREGOING IS FOR EMBASSY'S INFORMATION IN EVENT MATTER IS RAISED IN TAIPEI.

INGERSOLL

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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